

REMARKS

Claims 1, 6-10, 21, and 22 are now pending in the application. Claim 1 has been amended in the present application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection(s) in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 6-10, 17, 19-22 and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,574,969 (Olds) in view of U.S. Patent Nos. 4,052,670 (Watanabe) and 6,366,761 (Montepetit). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

It is believed that the originally filed claims are patentably distinct over this reference. However, in order to expedite prosecution of this application, independent Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of objected to Claim 23, thereby placing the claim in condition for allowance. In addition, independent Claim 19 has been cancelled from the present application. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

CONCLUSION

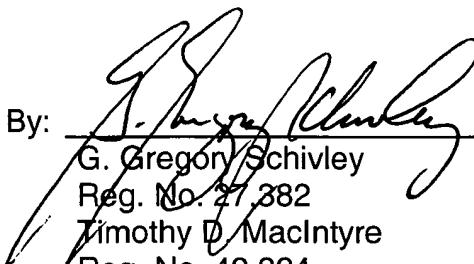
It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office

Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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